



Vermont
Department
of Health

Division of Alcohol
& Drug Abuse Programs

CRASH

School
Evaluation
Results
2006

Introduction

Since January 2002, the Vermont Division of Alcohol and Drug Programs and local providers have worked together with The Change Companies® to standardize and update their 10-hour CRASH School curriculum. CRASH stands for Countermeasures Related to Alcohol and Safety on Highways.

The mission of the CRASH intervention is to promote public safety by reducing the harmful effects of substance misuse, especially Driving While Under the Influence (DWI). The program reduces recidivism by assisting offenders in changing high-risk attitudes and behaviors. This process is facilitated by the application of evidence-based change theory, motivation strategies, group process and *Interactive Journaling*®.

Curriculum evaluation and revision is an ongoing process. In order to gather student feedback, instructors administer an anonymous course evaluation to students at the conclusion of the program.

In 2006, 854 completed course evaluations were submitted to The Change Companies® from the following locations:

- | | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| • Addison County | • Evergreen | • Phoenix House |
| • Bennington | • Howard Center | • Rutland |
| • Brattleboro | • Howard Mental Health | • Springfield |
| • Burlington/CDAS | • Middlebury | • St. Albans |
| • CDAS | • Morrisville | • St. Johnsbury |
| • Copley | • Newport | • Tri-County |

Course evaluations provide valuable insight into the students' program experience. Overall, student feedback reflects a positive attitude toward the program and its instructors.

The following summary highlights results of the 854 anonymous student course evaluations. Section I outlines demographic information collected from the students. Section II summarizes the responses to the survey's first nine questions. These questions offered students specific response choices and therefore provided measurable and concrete results. The last three questions were open-ended and therefore produced a broad range of responses. A sampling of student responses to these questions is provided in Section III of this report.



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Section I

Student Demographics

Gender

Male	77.58%
Female	22.42%

Age

15-19	7.35%
20-29	44.01%
30-39	18.95%
40-49	16.36%
50-59	9.67%
60-69	1.92%
70+	1.74%

Ethnicity

African American	2.80%
American Indian	1.41%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.94%
Hispanic/Latino	1.49%
White/Caucasian	91.55%
Other	1.81%



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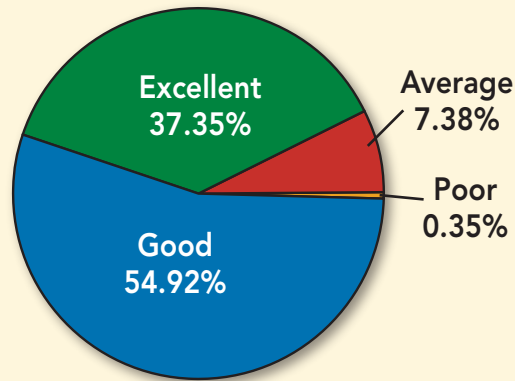
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Section II

Rating the Program Components & Instructors

Question 1

Overall, how would you rate this program?



Question 2

How useful were the following activities in helping you meet your goals for the course?

	Very Useful	Useful	Not Useful
Student Workbook	38.99%	57.71%	3.30%
Homework	29.96%	62.99%	7.05%
Personal Change Plan	46.63%	50.77%	2.60%
Videos	34.25%	55.29%	10.46%
Class Discussions	59.74%	38.03%	2.23%
Self-help Activity	45.66%	51.93%	2.41%

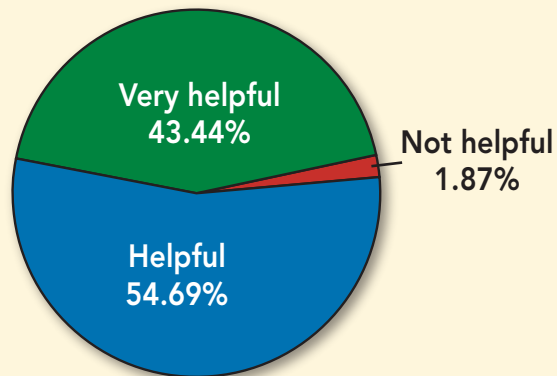
Question 3

Please rate your instructor in the following areas:

	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
Well-prepared	73.42%	24.47%	2.11%	0.00%
Made students feel comfortable	75.76%	21.31%	2.58%	0.35%
Involved everyone in discussion	75.41%	21.78%	2.81%	0.00%
Explained the material clearly	72.72%	24.59%	2.46%	0.23%
Overall rating	71.66%	25.76%	2.58%	0.00%

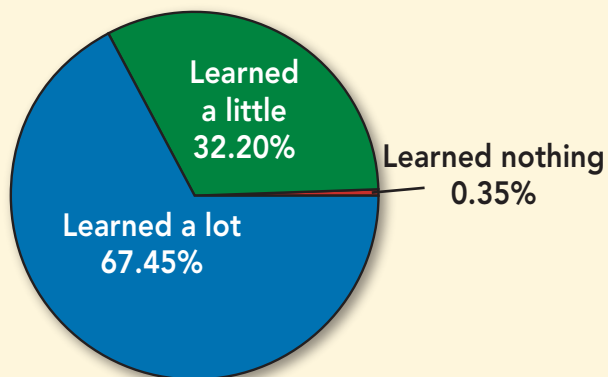
Question 4

How helpful was the material?



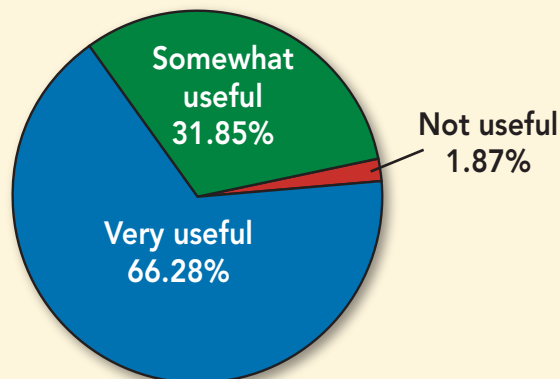
Question 5

How much did you learn from the program?



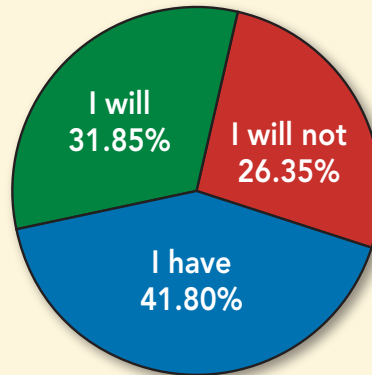
Question 6

How useful do you think the material in the program will be to you in the future?



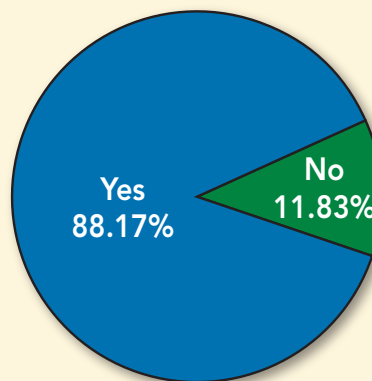
Question 7

Have you or will you share your student manual with anyone outside of class?



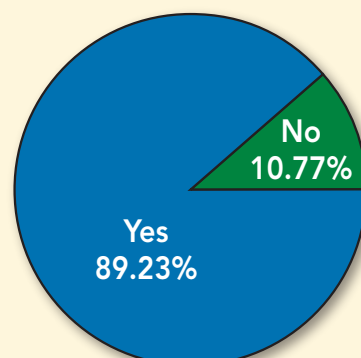
Question 8

Will you keep your student manual after the class ends?



Question 9

Do you feel that the CRASH School helped you make a change in your high-risk use of alcohol or other drugs?





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Section III

Open-ended Questions

Question 10

How would you describe this course to a friend?

Sampling of student responses:

“Very educational and interesting to hear other people’s input.”

“Learn some very useful information that helps you to really look at how you can change in the future to avoid the same situation.”

“I would suggest that it be worked into middle schools. It could help the young kids.”

“Excellent eye-opener.”

“Turned out to be very informative and helped me make some important decisions in how to change my behavior with alcohol.”

“You learn to recognize your drug and alcohol problem and start a plan to change it.”

“Don’t get in a situation where you would need to know about this course.”

“Not fun.”

“Very inconvenient but helpful. It spreads awareness and educating people is an excellent thing.”

“Worth the effort. Something every driver should take.”

Question 11

What did you like best about this course?

Sampling of student responses:

“People sharing their experiences made this real.”

“The interesting victim stories and their situations that resembled mine.”

“Getting my license back.”

“The interaction with the other students, teachers and the overall atmosphere.”

“The openness of the instructors and participants.”

“The ability to speak your mind and the understanding of instructors and their knowledge of the subject.”

“The open discussion.”

“The instructor didn’t make me feel like I was in school or in trouble and she involved everyone.”

“Being able to put my drinking into perspective.”

“The video about the kids was moving.”

Question 12

What did you like least about the course?

Sampling of student responses:

“The younger students who complained about being there.”

“The room was too crowded (hot).”

“I liked everything about the class and how it helps you look at alcoholism and drugs.”

“The big homework book.”

“The time it takes to complete the course.”

“Depending on others to get me here - buses - taxis.”

“Finding time to do the homework.”

“The pressure to feel like you have to speak.”

“The video with the priest was funny but a little irrelevant and not effective for me.”

“The course placed too heavy an emphasis on drug use/abuse. I thought the class was supposed to be about alcohol.”